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S E R M O N

Preached before the Laudable Association of
A N T I G A L L I C A N S,

On June the 14th, 1770, at Greenwich:

HUMBLY DEDICATED TO, AND PUBLISHED AT THE REQUEST

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J O H N W I L K E S, Esqr;

G R A N D P R E S I D E N T,

F U R N E S S E, Esqr;

V I C E - P R E S I D E N T,

And the rest of the Worthy M E M B E R S, by their most Affectionate Brother P. E. SCOTT, late Lecturer of St. PAUL,
D E P T F O R D.

Dulce et decorum est pro Patriâ mori.

PRINTED IN THE YEAR, 1770.

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ANTI-GALICANS

On June the 14th 1770, at Greenwich:

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JOHN WILKES, Esq;

Grand President,

FURNESSE, Esq;

Vice-President,



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St. Luke 2d. Chap. 14th. Verſe.

Glory to God in the Higheſt, and on Earth peace, good will towards Men.

OUR Blessed Lord and Maſter came into this World, to give us an Example, how we ſhould demean ourſelves in time of Trial and Probation: He endeavoured to ſow the Seeds of Brotherly Love amongſt us, and to put away all Strifes, Wraths, and Envyings, and that Divine Hymn which I have choſen for my Text, was ſung by the Holy Angels at his Sacred Birth, to induce us (even before his Bleſſed Doctrine was promulged) to live together in Unity and Brotherly Love. The Law of Moſes alſo, and the Old Teſtament, was made uſe of by the Divine Wiſdom as a Scaffold to erect the glorious Building of the Chriſtian Church; and indeed through the whole Book of Pſalms, we find Our SAVIOUR and his Doctrine moſt ſtrongly pointed at; for the Subject Matter reſembled a kind of Writing in Cypher, which Cypher was greatly explained by the Revelation of Chriſtianity. I ſhall therefore now proceed in the following Manner. Firſt, to ſhew the Pleaſures and Advantages of a True and Well Chosen Friendſhip. Secondly, that the Practice of G O D's Laws, is in general the only true Way to the Happineſs of Individuals, as well as conducive to the Felicity of all public Societies, or Bodies Politic. Thirdly, I ſhall take a View of our Happineſs in this preſent Nation, in the Profeſſion of ſo pure a Religion,

Fiſt,

this : When the Fame of the Wealth, Strength, and Wisdom of SOLOMON so alarmed the Nations round about him, then was the Piety and Integrity of the Prince, and Obedience of their whole Nation to G O D and their KING, practiced in a most conspicuous Manner ; on the other Hand, when the Ruin of their State drew near, and a long and painful Captivity awaited them, we then find a total Dissolution of Manners, a contempt and abuse of all Laws Divine and Humane were the forerunners, and as it were the Preparative of those heavy Judgments : It is easy to judge therefore how great and happy a Nation they might have been, had they followed the Practice of G O D's Laws, and not started aside like a broken Bow, nor is the Scripture of less use and concern to us, upon whom the Ends of the World are come, than it was to JEWS, since the same is so manifestly applicable to all well regulated Christian States in general, for the Practice of G O D's Laws, is certainly the only True Way to the Happiness of Individuals, as well as conducive to the Felicity of all Bodies Politic. We of this Nation in a very particular Manner ought to be thankful for the many Blessings we have received, and do still exemplify from the Hand of the most HIGH G O D, that wise and watchful Providence which is ever careful over a good and righteous People, hath happily placed us, as it did the JEWS, in a Land flowing with Milk and Honey, in a Land most compleatly adapted to promote the Health, Wealth, Strength, and the Delight and Pleasure of its Inhabitants, more than of any known Country in the habitable Globe, we have every thing in this Isle that is necessary and useful, every thing to indulge the Appetite of the greatest Epicure, or please the Fancy of the most luxuriant in Dress. We have no occasion to seek any thing else from other Nations, but may rest contented with our own Productions. It were much to be wished that the laudable and worthy Principles, which I hope inspires every Brother here, with a real love for his Country, were spread abroad throughout the Land, THEN WOULD OLD ENGLAND SOAR ABOVE HER SISTER KINGDOMS, then would the neighbouring Nations say, surely this is a wise and understanding People, and truly well might they say so, as who but Fools or Madmen, would ever attempt by encouraging Foreign Manufactures to destroy their own Trade and Commerce, the Chief Bulwarks of this mighty Nation.

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Amongst other Blessings which attend us, we have the Happiness of being Members of the purest Christian Church, corrupted in all other Countries, either by Superstition and Idolatry on the one Hand, or by the mistaken Zeal of furious and intemperate Reformers on the other, we are blest in the Profession of the purest Faith, and performance of the most reasonable Service. This Nation was once a State of Heathenism, till civilized by the Christian Faith, the little Learning which those dark Ages afforded, was chiefly found in Monasteries and Cells of Monks, and though small as it was, it greatly contributed to the civilizing our Savage and Fierce Ancestors, but when the Church of ENGLAND came to be once brought back to the Standard of pure and primitive Christianity at the Reformation, then the temporal Blessings of G O D came pouring in upon us like a Flood, Learning, Arts, Sciences, Navigation, Trade, and Commerce, arose upon us like the Morning Sun, after a dark and gloomy Night, it is manifest that the Grandeur of our State is owing to the wise Contrivance, and happy Administration of our Civil and Religious Laws, from whence it follows, if we but keep and do these Statutes and Ordinances, to which the greatness of our State is owing, we shall gain the Esteem of all Mankind, and the neighbouring Realms will with reason say, behold how Righteousness exalteth a Nation. Therefore my Bretheren in all our different Stations in Life, let every Man according to his Abilities, be they great or small, be careful to practice the Laws and Ordinances of G O D, for as we more or less exert them, and walk in the Paths pointed out in Scripture, we shall bring down every National Blessing upon this ISLE that we can wish for, whilst we continue in Unity and Godly Love together, what Opponents need we fear, the L O R D O U R G O D will go before us, and break in Pieces the Gates of Brass, and cut in sunder the Bars of Iron : Whilst we make Religion the Basis of our ASSOCIATION and FRIENDSHIP, and with unwearied Zeal (amidst every Persecution) endeavour to promote OLD ENGLAND'S GLORY, Heaven will smile upon us, and most powerfully support us, let it be our chief aim to reward the ingenuity and industry of those who study to adorn their native Country at home, and her Infant Colonies abroad, by their Refinement upon Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. Whilst the Heads of our Nation thus employ themselves to their own Honour, and their Countries good, we may say with the Royal Psalmist, Happy are the People who are in
such

such a Case : To attempt to enumerate the various Successes of our Fleets and Armies in the last War granted by the Hand of Heaven, would more become a History than such a Design as this, our Cause of War was just, and truly Righteous, and G O D A L M I G H T Y so blessed the Conduct and Courage of our Gallant Countrymen, that we may with Propriety apply to ourselves the prophetic Words of the L O R D in the 45th. Chap. of I S A I A H, I will go before thee, and give thee the hidden Treasures of Darkness, and the hidden Treasures of Secret Places. Thus eminently did G O D's Blessing shine upon a most just and righteous Cause, and Crown us with Success in every Quarter of the Globe, where the Roman Eagle never took its rapid Flight, hath our B R I T I S H L I O N loudly roared, a Continent unknown to the Macedonian or Roman Empire, is now brought under the Dominion of the British Sceptre : But Arts and Arms, and all their high prized Trophies, Glories, Honours, and Emoluments must all of them soon perish, be all consumed and totally forgotten ; for as St. P E T E R assures us, the Day of the L O R D will come as a Thief in the Night, in which the Heavens shall pass away with a great Noise, and the Elements shall melt with fervent Heat, the Earth also, and the Works that are therein shall be all burnt up, and what then will become of all the Scenes of even the most glorious military Atchievements ? All, Alas ! must then partake of the common Ruin and Desolation of this earthly Globe. At that great Day the Plains of A G I N C O U R T and C R E S S Y, so renowned in our ancient British Story, as well as those more modern Scenes of military Glory and British Triumph, the Fields of B L E N H E I M, R A M A L I E S, and M O N S, as well as those of D E T I N G E N and M I N D E N too, must all share in the general Combustion of this earthly Fabric, all these must be done away, and the Conquerors and the Laurels be remembered no more. But Victories gained over Sin and Satan, a Conquest happily atchieved over our corrupted Inclinations, Vice, and Passions, will be rewarded with a Triumph of a more durable, as well as a more glorious Kind, for our success in this heavenly Kind of warfare, will be crowned with Laurels, which can never fade ; for, alas ! they are plucked from a Tree which grows too near the Throne of G O D to be ever subject to wither or decay, but will Flourish, and be ever Fresh and Green upon the Brows of the happy Conquerors to all Eternity : Therefore, though we have so lately seen the British Arms by G O D's Blessing, and the unequalled Behaviour of our Gallant Countrymen, trampling on the perfidy
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both of FRANCE and SPAIN, even from the rising up of the Sun, to the going down of the same, bearing down all Opposition before them, in a Manner scarcely to be paralleled. Still, let me tell you, that if Religion, Virtue, and good Morals do but keep pace with our late Success in War, it will more contribute to our Honour and Advantage here, and our Eternal Happiness hereafter, than all our late Triumphs both by Land and Sea: Now my Bretheren, e'er I conclude, let me exhort you to let true Patriotism fire your Hearts, with that LIBERTY which ought to be Constitutional with every true BRITON, let a generous Emulation be raised in all our Hearts, and a steady Inclination to be doing something on our Parts towards raising some Monument of Glory for our Country, and to Endeavour strongly to support her Interest and Reputation; we are all of us to use our utmost Endeavours to promote the Peace and Welfare of OUR SOVEREIGN AND HIS KINGDOMS, to pray to GOD to extirpate all his Evil Councillors, and to cut off all the Workers of Iniquity, who turn Religion into Rebellion, and Faith into Faction. We are a Freeborn People, and therefore naturally jealous of all tyrannical Oppressors and Invaders of our LIBERTIES, RIGHTS, AND PROPERTIES, and doubtless a very brave and laudable Principle it is, and it well becometh us to cherish it as REAL ANTIGALLICANS. But then, let not that specious pretence of Zeal betray us into any unreasonable Heats, much less into such Actions as we are forbidden by the Laws of GOD and MAN: Let Prudence be our Guide, and let us ever be attentive to the still Voice of Reason, then the LORD GOD will smile upon us, and take us under his heavenly Protection.

We have hitherto my Bretheren, showed ourselves firmly attached to his most Sacred MAJESTY, and I hope we shall always be ready not only to assist, but defend him (in case of need) with our Lives and Fortunes: Let us beg of GOD, who by his glorious Wisdom, Almighty Power, and secret Providence who determines the Event of War, the issues of humane Council, and the returns of Peace and Victory, to place a Guard of Angels about his ROYAL PERSON, and Immure him with the defence of his Right Hand, that no unhallowed Arm may do him violence, to support him with aid from Heaven, that he may be able to tread down every one who hath evil will at Zion, then will OLD ENGLAND Flourish, then BRITANNIA's Sons shall smile, then will the neighbouring Nations envy us, and say, What People is
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there so great, that hath Statutes and Judgments so Righteous? Who is so great a G O D as their G O D, who hath exalted them above all the Nations on Earth? Finally my Bretheren if we keep firm together, and unshaken in our Resolutions, we shall be able to drive out the mighty from before us, put a stop to the gathering together of the Froward, and cause it to go well with our Posterity.

By our firm Adherence to ANTIGALLICAN PRINCIPLES, we shall weaken the Hands, blast the Designs, and defeat the Enterprizes of the KING's Enemies, so that no secret Conspiracy, nor open Violence may disquiet his Reign.

G O D grant, that their may never be wanting a Succession of honest Hearts to support OLD ENGLANDS Glory, and firmly promote its Interest: And G O D grant, of his infinite Mercy, that an Entrance may be open to us from the Highest H E A V E N, and that we may all become fit for the Society of those happy Spirits, who inhabit the blisful Regions above, through the Merits of our dear Redeemer, to whom with the Holy Ghost be ascribed, as is most due, all Honour and Glory for ever and ever,

A M E N.

F I N I S.



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